



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was about steady to weak in the West, but mostly steady to about steady elsewhere. Retail demand was generally light to fair with limited first of the month activity. Food service was fair to moderate, best for fast food and into sports bars. Supplies of all sizes were at least sufficient with heavier weights more available. In the parts structure, trading was light to no better than fair. Wings were in the strongest position with supplies well balanced to tight. Breast items and dark meat were more than sufficient with little interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy, but mostly desirable.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 cents to 70.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 73.25 cents last year on January 5, 2005.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	138.50
BREASTS - B/S	107.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	58.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	93.50
LEG QUARTERS	28.00
WINGS	86.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

**SOUTHERN REGION** Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail and food service demand was light to fair, best for fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was fair at best. Wings were in balance to short, and moving best. The remaining items were at least adequate or available with limited interest. In production areas, live supplies were mostly moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

**NORTHEAST REGION** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was noted as generally fair at best during midweek trading. Offerings of smaller sizes were noted as adequate; heavier sizes were fully adequate to instances ample. Retail and distributive movement was fair. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, wings were well cleared. Breast items were readily available and discounted where product was in excess. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate.

**MIDWEST REGION** Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Additional offerings were light, but sufficient for trade needs. Fill in trading was noted on 3 up wogs delivered into the Chicago area at 49 cents. Demand into retail sectors was light to instances moderate for the spotty first of the month business. Food service movement was light to moderate with fast food entities and sports bars securing the best interest. Floor stocks were generally balanced as buyers continue to purchase for immediate needs only. Sizes were in a desirable range. Supplies of parts were adequate to available for most trade needs with wings in the shortest position. The trade sentiment was firm on wings, and barely steady on dark meat cuts and breast items.

**WESTERN REGION** Trade sentiment was about steady to weak. Offerings were adequate to ample, with heavy weights in the longest position. Retailer demand was moderate overall; good where promotions in progress or planned. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on bone-in breast and wings, with balance of parts about steady to barely steady. Floor stocks generally adequate for immediate needs.

## BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 215 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 31, 2005. This was up 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

## BROILER CHICKS UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 174 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 31, 2005. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through December 31, 2005 were 9.04 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED TOTAL 19 SELECTED STATES

WEEK ENDING 12/31/05	2005	2004	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	214,522	208,842	+03
CHICKS PLACED	173,711	172,249	+01

Source: USDA, NASS

**WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING** Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 11-Feb-06 is estimated at 160.6 million head. This compares to 161.5 million head the previous week and to 162.1 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 156.3 million head and the composite weighted average price was 71.37 cents per pound.

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

**POUNDS**

ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	770	83.00-151.00	90-95	96.60
TENDERLOINS	293	72.00-139.00	78-82	81.53
BREAST - LINE RUN	112	52.00-63.00	53-56	54.05
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	208	30.00-48.00	32-34	32.62
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	588	19.00-25.00	20-22	21.26
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,138	20.00-30.00	23-25	23.74
WINGS (WHOLE)	307	80.00-87.00	81-83	82.94
WINGS (CUT)	295	95.00-111.00	99-101	102.22
DRUMSTICKS	52	30.00-48.00	-	33.46
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS	100	78.00-97.00	-	88.20

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR JANUARY 04, 2006 — F.O.B. DOCK.

**RANGE****TODAY'S AVERAGE****5-DAY AVERAGE**

33.50 - 40.00

36.97

36.50

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

Trucklot buying activity was light to mostly fair during midweek trading. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts were fully sufficient for current needs; bone-in breasts at least adequate to available. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate. Wings were well cleared. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady to firm for wings; about steady to barely steady for breast items. The balance of items were no better than steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

**CURRENT NEG****WTD**

ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	100-105	100.86	527,890
TENDERLOINS	95-100	88.37	216,680
BREAST - WITH RIBS	51-52	62.36	73,680
BREAST - LINE RUN	51	51.25	72,000
LEGS	39-40	40.82	274,480
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	22-23	23.87	348,000
DRUMSTICKS	29-30	34.86	80,800
THIGHS	32-33	41.55	46,850
B/S THIGHS	95-96	93.43	99,040
WINGS (WHOLE)	83-84	84.34	267,800
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.17	22,600
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	50-55	46.88	12,542
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	70-75	74.99	21,440

\*\*\*\*\*

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

\* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	(1,000)		(1,000)				(1,000)	
	01/04	01/03	01/02	12/30	01/02	12/30	12/28	12/26
Alabama	4,097	4,105	1,192	4,095	5.00	5.15	4,037	6.08
Arkansas	5,346	5,423	(A)	5,466	4.35	5.28	5,217	4.12
Delmarva	2,357	2,313	1,177	2,559	6.62	5.76	2,337	5.26
KY-LA-TN	2,320	2,316	1,540	2,068	4.60	5.03	2,263	5.26
Mississippi	3,001	3,097	(A)	3,496	3.91	5.70	3,039	(Holiday)
North Carolina	2,616	2,539	(A)	3,021	6.14	6.57	2,534	7.20
Texas	2,489	2,460	1,493	2,528	5.17	5.15	2,509	5.41
Total	22,226	22,253	7,251	23,296	5.20	5.50	21,936	5.60
Mon-Wed	53,442	(B)					48,353	(B)

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 04-Jan-06 is estimated to be 33,253,000 head up 1.02 percent from a week ago and up 56.40 percent from a year ago. (Last week 32,917,000, last year 21,262,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP		99-107
HENS UNDER 5#		-
HENS OVER 5#		65-73
DUCKS		
RABBITS-WHOLE		
RABBITS-CUT UP		
SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY		
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	114
	ICE PACK	89-105
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	118
	ICE PACK	100
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	109
	ICE PACK	88-102
DUCKS		185-190

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 07-Jan-06

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	01/07/06 (1)	12/31/05
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
Broiler/fryer	165,513(2)	142,201
Light hens	1,283	1,068
Heavy hens	1,370	1,174
Total	168,166	144,443

(1)ESTIMATED (2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 07-Jan-06 is 155.4 million head compared to 162.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 165.8 million head or 10.4 million more than estimated available. For the week of 14-Jan-06 the estimated available is 154.6 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS**  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 01/02/06	31,772	67,392
AM 12/01/05	33,192	75,095
CHG	-1,420	-7,703
PCT CHG	-4	-10

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT** (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	01/02/06	12/26/05	01/03/05	01/02/06	12/26/05	01/03/05
<b>PACIFIC</b>						
<b>COAST</b>	309	334	1,868	5,280	5,400	7,574
<b>LOS</b>						
<b>ANGELES</b>	39	35	62	3,009	3,088	3,804

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2006			RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		76-80
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		82-86

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

FOR 1/03/06

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	-	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.75	1.15	.85	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	1.00	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	-	.20	-	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	-	1.75
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS	8					

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending December 30, 2005

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	40.58	145.24	106.80	8.54	4.27	53.40
High	68.35	153.79	115.34	17.09	8.54	53.40
Mostly	42.72	149.51	111.07	17.09	4.27	53.40

**SAN JUAN**

Low	42.72	153.79	102.52	8.54	4.27	55.53
High	68.35	162.33	111.07	17.09	8.54	55.53
Mostly	42.72	158.06	106.80	12.82	4.27	55.53

**NEW SAN JUAN**

Low	40.58	149.51	106.80	8.54	4.27	55.53
High	68.35	153.79	115.34	12.82	8.54	55.53
Mostly	42.72	149.51	111.07	12.82	4.27	55.53

**BECERRA**

Low	42.72	153.79	111.07	12.82	4.27	61.94
High	70.49	162.33	119.61	21.36	8.54	61.94
Mostly	42.72	153.79	115.34	21.36	4.27	61.94

**DELMARVA**

Movement of ready to cook whole birds was generally noted as no better than fair. Seller offerings were adequate on the 2.50 and 3.00 pound sizes; fully adequate to ample on the larger. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, offerings were at least adequate. Wings were noted as in best balance. Boneless/skinless breasts were often difficult to clear. ACTUAL SLAUGHTER WEEK ENDING 12/31/2005 WAS 9,984,085 @ 5.82 LBS.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED  
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	54-72
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
(A)Not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations	

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